

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Inter-African Affairs

Inter-African: Mandela, Mugabe Attend SADC Summit in Botswana

MB2806125396 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1110 GMT 28 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Heads of state and government of SADC (Southern African Development Community) member states began a one-day summit in Gaborone this morning. The summit has been convened to launch the community's organ on politics, defense and security. The leaders are also expected to review developments in the regions outside, with particular emphasis on matters relating to politics defense and security.

President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, and the deputy prime minister of Mauritius, Mr. Paul Berenger, arrived yesterday. Presidents Sam Nujoma of Namibia, Nelson Mandela of South Africa, Bakili Muluzi of Malawi, and the deputy prime minister of Lesotho, Mr. Pakalitha Mosisili, arrived this morning. They were met at the airport by the president, Sir Ketumile Masire, cabinet ministers, the executive secretary of SADC, Mr. Kaire Mbuende, members of the diplomatic corps and senior government officials. The delegates are expected to leave Gaborone this afternoon when the summit ends.

Inter-African: Zambia, Angola Attendance at SADC Meeting Uncertain

MB2806124396 Lusaka THE POST in English 28 Jun 96

[Report by Bright Mwape: "FTJ Keeps SADC Leaders Guessing" — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Frederick Chiluba has kept his colleagues in the region guessing about his likelihood of attending today's Southern African Development Community (SADC) meeting in Gaborone, Botswana. But international and local human rights groups were by yesterday filing petitions lobbying for a strong SADC position on Zambia and the issue of human rights in the region.

A foreign affairs spokesman in Botswana told REUTERS news agency yesterday that the Zambian President, whose country is likely to be the focus of the talks, has not confirmed his participation. In Lusaka, government remained mute over its position with finance minister Ronald Penza insisting the meeting is misdirected if it is called for Zambia. "How can I be attending a meeting I do not know about. I have said Zambia has no problem its them with a problem and that is my position," Penza said. [sentence as published]

A foreign affairs spokesman in Botswana told REUTERS: "We have still not received confirmation about Chiluba and Angola."

Amnesty International groups in South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Mauritius have lodged in a 3-point petition which seeks to include among other things "human rights considerations as a clear component of any intervention by a collective security capacity and a peace making capacity". The Women for Change indicated they were sending their protest while the Zambia Independent Monitoring Team (ZIMT) sent a four-page petition to all Presidents in the region calling for the establishment of "a fact-finding mission on Zambia to establish the nature, correctness and validity of a seemingly constitutional crisis which has divided Zambia into two camps". ZIMT also believes today's meeting should take a position on the issue of human rights and work to set up a regional human rights court to "ensure rule of law, good governance and free elections". The petition is signed by ZIMT president Alfred Zulu and Board Secretary Gershom Musonda.

The meeting in Gaborone is to be attended by, among others, South African President Nelson Mandela and Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe. The meeting has been called primarily to launch the SADC organ on politics, defense and security but is expected to discuss the situation in Zambia.

Inter-African: SADC Issues Communiqué on New Security Organ

MB2806180996 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1624 GMT 28 Jun 96

[Communiqué issued by the Summit of Heads of State of Governments of the Southern African Development Community, (SADC), entitled "SADC Organ on Politics, Defense and Security," in Gaborone on 28 June on the SAPA PR Wire Service]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] 1. The Summit of Heads of State or Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) met in Gaborone, the Republic of Botswana, on 28th June 1996, under the Chairmanship of His Excellency, Sir Ketumile Masire, President of the Republic of Botswana, to launch the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security.

2. Delegations of member States were led by the following:

Botswana: H.E. President Ketumile Masire

Malawi: H.E. President Bakili Muluzi

Mozambique: H.E. President Joaquim Chissano

Namibia: H.E. President Sam Nujoma

South Africa: H.E. President Nelson Mandela

Zimbabwe: H.E. President Robert Mugabe

Lesotho: Hon. Deputy Prime Minister P. Mosisili

Mauritius: Hon. Paul Berenger, Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister of Foreign Affairs, International and Regional
Cooperation

Tanzania: Hon. Jakaya Kikwete, Minister of Foreign
Affairs and International Cooperation

Zambia: Hon. Lt. General C. S. Tembo, Minister of
Foreign Affairs

Swaziland: Hon. A. V. Khoza, Minister of Foreign
Affairs

3. The Summit recalled that the Heads of State or Government had in May 1996 endorsed the recommendations of SADC Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security, proposing the establishment of the SADC Organ for Politics, Defence and Security.

4. The Summit reaffirmed that the SADC Organ constituted an appropriate institutional framework by which SADC countries would coordinate their policies and activities in the areas of politics, defence and security. The Summit, therefore, agreed as follows:

4.2 Principles

As, inter alia, set out in Article 4 of the SADC Treaty, the following shall be the guiding principles for the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security:

- a) sovereign equality of all member states;
- b) respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State and for its inalienable right to independent existence;
- c) achievement of solidarity, peace and security in the region;
- d) observance of human rights, democracy and the rule of law;
- e) promotion of economic development in the SADC region in order to achieve for all member states, equity, balance and mutual benefit;
- f) peaceful settlement of disputes by negotiation, mediation and arbitration;
- g) military intervention of whatever nature shall be decided upon only after all possible political remedies have been exhausted in accordance with the Charter of the OAU and the United Nations.

4.2 The Objectives of this Organ

4.2.1 The SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security shall work to the following objectives; namely to:

- a) protect the people and safeguard the development of the region, against instability arising from the breakdown of law and order, inter-state conflict and external aggression;
- b) promote political co-operation among member States and the evolution of common political value systems and institutions;
- c) develop a common foreign policy in areas of mutual concern and interest, and to lobby as a region, on issues of common interest at international fora;
- d) cooperate fully in regional security and defence through conflict prevention management and resolution.
- e) mediate in inter-state and intra-state disputes and conflicts;
- f) use preventative diplomacy to pre-empt conflict in the region, both within and between states, through an early warning system;
- g) where conflict does occur, to seek to end their as quickly as possible through diplomatic means. Only where such means fail would the Organ recommend that the Summit should consider punitive measures. These responses would be agreed in a Protocol on Peace, Security and Conflict Resolution;
- h) promote and enhance the development of democratic institutions and practices within member states, and to encourage the observance of universal human rights as provided for in the Charters' and Conventions of the OAU and the United Nations;
- i) promote peace-making and peace-keeping in order to achieve sustainable peace and security;
- j) give political support to the organs and institutions of SADC;
- k) promote the political, economic, social, and environmental dimensions of security;
- l) develop a collective security capacity and conclude a Mutual Defence Pact for responding to external threats, and a regional peacekeeping capacity within national armies that could be called upon within the region, or elsewhere on the continent;
- m) develop close cooperation between the police and security services of the region, with a view to addressing cross border crime, as well as promoting a community-based approach on matters of security;

n) encourage and monitor the ratification of United Nations, Organisation of African Unity, and other international conventions and treaties on arms control and disarmament, human rights and peaceful relations between states;

o) coordinate the participation of member states in international and regional peacekeeping operations; and

p) address extra-regional conflicts which impact on peace and security in Southern Africa.

4.3 Institutional Framework

4.3.1 The SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security shall operate at the Summit level, and shall function independently of other SADC structures. The Organ shall also operate at Ministerial and technical levels. The Chairmanship of the Organ shall rotate on an annual and on a Troika basis.

4.3.2 The Summit elected His Excellency, President Mugabe as the Chairman of the Organ. The Chairman of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security thanked the Summit for having elected Zimbabwe to chair the Organ. He assured the Summit that he will work closely with all member States and consult on all issues pertaining to the work of the Organ.

4.3.3 The Summit also agreed that the Inter-State Defence and Security Committee shall be one of the institutions of the Organ. The Organ may establish other structures as the need arises.

5. Furthermore, the Summit reviewed the political and security situation in the region and noted efforts by SADC Governments to consolidate democracy, peace and stability within their countries. In that regard the Summit was briefed on current developments in the following member States:

5.1 South Africa

5.1.1 The South African Government briefed the Summit on the local government elections in the KwaZulu/Natal Province. The Government indicated that, the local government elections could not take place on the 1st of November 1995 in the province as was the case in the rest of the country because of the history of political violence in the province. The elections were also postponed from May 1996 to June 1996 for the same reasons. However, the elections were generally free and fair, although there were few incidences of violence that resulted in the loss of lives.

5.1.2 Due to irregularities, the elections were declared null and void in five constituencies. New elections will be held in these areas as soon as possible. While it was anticipated that the Inkatha Freedom Party would have the overall majority in the province, the ANC was

expected to do very well in the major urban areas of the province.

5.1.3 The Summit commended the Government and people of the Republic of South Africa for working hard to ensure that local elections in KwaZulu/Natal were held in a climate of peace.

5.2 Swaziland

5.2.1 The Summit was briefed by the Government of Swaziland on the process of constitutional reform and on-going labour unrest in that country. The Government assured the Summit that everything was being done to reach an agreement with trade unions and other labour associations.

5.2.2 The Summit expressed satisfaction that the process of constitutional reform and measures to address labour unrest in the Kingdom of Swaziland was well underway and was being driven by the people of Swaziland themselves.

5.3 Zambia

5.3.1 The Government of Zambia briefed the Summit on recent constitutional changes in that country. The Government assured the Summit that the process of constitutional change followed all laid down procedures including the mobilisation of the views of the people of Zambia. The Government of Zambia expressed concern over the internationalisation of what is considered a domestic matter. The Government assured the Summit that the security situation was under control and that the Government will do everything possible to ensure that the general elections in October 1996 are held in a free and fair environment.

5.3.2 The Summit noted with appreciation the brief on the political situation in Zambia. The Summit was satisfied that the Government of Zambia would do everything to ensure peace and stability in that country, and that the Government undertook to keep the region informed of any developments that may warrant Summit attention.

5.4 Lesotho

5.4.1 The Summit was briefed by the Government of Lesotho on the political situation and the measures the Government had taken to consolidate peace and stability in that country.

5.4.2 The Summit noted with appreciation that there had been significant and commendable developments towards peace and stability in Lesotho.

5.5 Tanzania

5.5.1 The Summit was briefed by the Government of Tanzania on the East Africa Regional Summit which was held in Arusha on 25 June 1996 to consider the deteriorating political and security situation in Burundi and the efforts being expended to promote a political settlement to the conflict in that country.

5.5.2 The Summit commended the efforts of the region and those being expended within the framework of the initiative being undertaken by Mwalimu Julius K Nyerere to bring about a negotiated solution and urged the countries of the region to persist in the search for a lasting solution to the crisis in Burundi.

5.5.3 The Summit reiterated its support to these efforts and pledged its readiness to help in the implementation of the decisions reached by that Arusha regional Summit.

5.6 Report on the Commonwealth

5.6.1 The Summit was briefed by the Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe, Chairman of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) on the outcome of the recent meeting held in London, from 24-25 June, 1996, between CMAG and a high level Nigerian Government delegation.

5.6.2 The Minister told the meeting that the CMAG raised issues of human rights and the rule of law in Nigeria in the context of the principles enshrined in the Commonwealth Declaration. It referred to the detention of the people without trial and other violations of human rights in Nigeria.

5.6.3 On its part, the Nigerian Delegation questioned, on procedural grounds, the suspension of Nigerian from the Commonwealth, and called for the reversal of the suspension and well and the removal of sanctions against Nigeria.

5.6.4 The two sides agreed to continue the dialogue by holding another meeting after due consultations. CMAG decided to keep on reserve the measures it had decided upon in April 1996 pending its next meeting in September 1996 when these measures will be reviewed in the light of progress made in respecting human rights and the democratisation process in Nigeria.

5.6.5 The Summit expressed satisfaction with the work of the CMAG, and urged it to continue consultations with the Government of Nigeria and to keep Summit informed of any developments on this issue as appropriate.

6. The Summit thanked His Excellency, President Masire, the Government and people of the Republic of Botswana for the cordial and brotherly welcome and

hospitality accorded to Heads of State or Governments and their delegations.

7. The Summit Chairman, His Excellency President Masire delivered a Closing Statement outlining the background and mandate of the SADC Organ for Politics, Defence and Security. The Chairman of the Organ, His Excellency President Mugabe, made a response statement.

Inter-African: SADC Meeting on Free Movement of People Ends 27 Jun

MB2806130855 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1110 GMT 28 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] SADC [Southern African Development Community] ministers responsible for the draft protocol on free movement of people in the SADC region, and illicit drug trafficking, have been urged to put aside the petty differences for the success of the organization.

The call was made by the Zimbabwean minister of home affairs, Mr. Dumiso Dabengwa, when giving a vote of thanks at their meeting which ended in Gaborone yesterday. He appealed to his counterparts to be patient and assist those who are trying to improve their economies to arrive at a level that would allow a free movement of people in the region.

Officially closing the meeting, the minister of labor and home affairs, Mr. Bahiti Temane, said the cornerstone of cooperation on which SADC was founded will enable the organization to achieve integration for the benefit of the region. He said such cooperation makes it possible for the organization to improve the lifestyles of people in the region.

Inter-African: Mugabe Elected Chairman of SADC Politics, Security Group

MB2806194496 Harare Zimbabwe National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 28 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The president, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has been appointed the chairman of the SADC [Southern African Development Community] organ on politics, defense, and security. The organ was launched in Gaborone, Botswana, this afternoon.

The announcement was made by the SADC Chairman Botswana President Sir Ketumile Masire, after a summit of leaders of the southern African grouping. Zimbabwe will chair the organ for at least one year.

Briefing journalists after the meeting attended by all the SADC member states except Angola. President Mugabe

said the organ is a new body of what used to be the Frontline states. He said the organ will not interfere in internal affairs of members countries, but will only do so when it is clear that stability is under threat. Even so, intervention will only come after consultation with the concerned governments and other member states.

The launching of the SADC organ on politics, defense, and security comes amid deteriorating political situation in Zambia, and rising tensions between Botswana and Namibia over the ownership of the Sidudu Island on the Chobe river.

Burundi

Burundi: 30 Hutu Rebels Killed After Convoy Attack

AB2906140096 Paris AFP in English
1042 GMT 29 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Bujumbura, Jun 29 (AFP) — Around 30 Hutu guerrillas were killed and 20 civilians wounded when rebels attacked a convoy escorted by Burundi Army troops, a military spokesman said here Saturday [29 June].

Lieutenant-Colonel Longin Minani, spokesman for the Tutsi-dominated Burundian Army, said rebels attacked a seven truck convoy of tradesmen on Thursday in the Cibitoke area of northwest Burundi.

Two soldiers and a civilian died in the initial assault, said Minani, adding that troops from the nearby Mugina locality later intervened to encircle the assailants.

In the ensuing fierce battle 31 rebels were killed and 22 civilians were wounded in the cross-fire. [passage omitted]

Burundi: Over 2,000 Burundians Flee to Zaire, Rwanda

AB3006200596 Paris AFP in English
1622 GMT 30 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bujumbura, Jun 30 (AFP) — More than 2,000 Burundians, apparently fleeing fighting between rebel Hutus and the Burundi army in Cibitoke province, have taken refuge in Rwanda and Zaire in the past few days, the UN refugee agency said here Sunday [30 June].

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) delegate Ishito Mise said 1,300 Burundians had fled to Rwanda on Thursday and 1,000 to Zaire on Saturday. He was not able to say whether they were Hutus or Tutsis.

Cibitoke province, which borders both Rwanda and Zaire, has suffered heavy and persistent ethnic unrest since October 1993 in which tens of thousands of people were killed.

Burundi's Tutsi-dominated army says Hutu militias in Zaire and Hutus exiled from Rwanda after the 1994 genocide there are helping Burundi's own Hutu rebel forces.

Humanitarian agencies have all pulled out of the area after three employees of the International Committee of the Red Cross were killed on June 4. UNHCR officials got the numbers of refugees fleeing to Rwanda and Zaire from offices in those two countries.

The unrest has become so bad that Burundi's government is considering bringing in foreign military assistance to ease the situation.

An army spokesman said Saturday that troops killed 31 Hutu rebels after an ambush on a civilian convoy escorted by the military left two soldiers and one civilian dead.

Burundi: Leaders Hasten To Explain Foreign Military Aid Plan

AB3006144596 Paris AFP in English
0332 GMT 30 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bujumbura, Jun 30 (AFP) — Burundi's leaders are scrambling to explain plans to bring in foreign troops to help quell ethnic violence amid protest demonstrations against the proposal. Diplomatic sources in Nairobi have said that military intervention involving Ugandan and Tanzanian forces could take place very soon, after Bujumbura sought outside help at a summit in Arusha, Tanzania, last Tuesday [25 June].

President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya pledged on television late Saturday that the foreign troops ensuring "security assistance" would be under Burundian command. He said Bujumbura had asked for political, diplomatic, military and police help from its neighbors, which would not prejudice national sovereignty. The request had been prompted by the level of violence in the country between the minority Tutsi-dominated army and rebels of the Hutu majority, the president, a Hutu, said. Prime Minister Antoine Nduwayo, a Tutsi, has also been trying to explain the government's request.

Thousands of demonstrators protested against the move Saturday at the call of former Tutsi president Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, who exerts powerful influence in the army and among young Tutsis. They called for the return to power of the former president, who was toppled in September 1987, and accused the current leadership of leading Burundi into chaos.

The ethnic clashes have left tens of thousands dead in the past two and a half years and aroused fears that they will degenerate into large-scale massacres as in neighboring Rwanda.

On Monday, a "technical committee" to determine military aid will meet for the first time, the Tanzanian Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

Burundi: Government—Nothing Final on Issue of Foreign Military Aid

EA3006183696 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 30 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the Arusha summit, several media sources, notably an AFP dispatch from Nairobi on 28 June, quoting diplomatic sources, have given details of the security assistance reportedly requested by the Burundian government. According to the source, the assistance would consist notably of the protection of political and administrative leaders and infrastructure, training the police and the gendarmerie and ending the role of the army in maintaining security.

A communique from the office of the prime minister informs the public that the issue of the said request is still being dealt with and will soon be submitted to the national security council before being proposed to the technical commission provided by the Arusha summit. Requests for any other form of assistance at whatever level have not originated from the authoritative institutions and do not bind the Burundian government, the statement concludes.

Burundi: Defense, Interior Ministers React to Military Aid Request

AB3006191796 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 30 Jun 96

[Italicized passages recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] There has been a series of reactions in Burundi regarding the government's request for military assistance from neighboring countries to try and check the inter ethnic massacres in the country. Yesterday, following a call by former President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, hundreds of people took to the streets of Bujumbura to protest any form of foreign military intervention in the country. On its part, the government is continuing its campaign of explaining the decisions of the recent Arusha summit. To that end, Defense Minister Lieutenant Colonel Firmin Sinzoyiheba has met with Army officers. Although the officers do not totally reject the resolution on security assistance, they are calling for cohesion at the top government level. This is what Lt. Col. Firmin Sinzoyiheba disclosed in an interview with Louis Kamouine Moussa.

[Sinzoyiheba] *At the meeting with Army officers, we felt their concern. They agree to the resolution but expressed reservations. They said they find the lack of cohesion at the top government level worrying. They said they are prepared to convey the message we are urging them to convey, but as long as matters have not been settled at*

the top government level, it will always be difficult for them to convey the message.

The ruling Front for Democracy in Burundi [Frodebu] welcomes the Arusha resolution given the government's inability to restore peace. Frederic Bavuluvara, the Frodebu parliamentary group chairman, disclosed this in an interview with Louis Kamouine Moussa.

[Bavuluvara] *My party, Frodebu, believes that the Arusha summit came at the right time since the current government has been unable to solve the crime problem, protect people and their goods, protect institutions, bring back refugees and resettle displaced persons, disarm the civilian population, and ensure the security of traders. In short, Burundi has been plunged into the most precarious social, political, economic and security situation. This is why we welcome the outcome of the Arusha summit, during which President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya and Prime Minister Antoine Nduwayo agreed on the principle of military assistance to check the massacres and crime. They also agreed on the principle of negotiations, which some call dialogue or debate, with all the protagonists involved in the Burundian issue both inside and outside the country.*

Louis Kamouine Moussa also interviewed Interior Minister Sylvestre Banzubaze, who has met with and reassured provincial governors, who do not believe there is true cooperation between the president of the Republic and the prime minister. Here is what the interior minister said.

[Banzubaze] *It is quite normal to invite both the president and the prime minister to such a conference. Why was the invitation not extended to the president alone, who represents the country and has that prerogative? It is because differences of opinion are to be expected. This is even apparent in this current system of government which is in line with the agreement on governance. It is normal that people hold different views. However, the main point is to have the will to reach a positive result, and that is what happened in Arusha. The president and prime minister started off with divergent views but arrived at a middle-of-the-ground solution in the end.*

Burundi: Minister Supports Military 'Cooperation', Against Foreign Troops

LD2906194296 Paris Radio France International in French 1730 GMT 29 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] In Burundi, the Army has today announced that about 30 Hutu rebels, as well as two soldiers and a civilian, were killed the day before yesterday (27 June) in an ambush in the province of Cibitoke in the northwest of the country.

There was also a demonstration this morning in Bujumbura against the deployment of foreign troops; several hundred people, according to Agence France Presse, took to the streets of the capital in response to a call by former President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza.

Yesterday, as you may know, the former Tanzanian president and mediator in the Burundi crisis (Julius Nyerere) was received by the Quai d'Orsay (French Foreign Ministry). According to Nyerere, the dispatch of an armed force to Burundi is aimed above all at keeping the peace.

As for Burundi Communications Minister Antoine Baza, he explained this morning to [correspondent] Boniface Vigaa why the Bujumbura government was today in favor of a sub-regional force, while a few months ago it was still opposed to a UN intervention force:

[Begin recording] [Baza] It is sub-regional cooperation, not a military force that would be deployed in Burundi. The difference between a foreign force deployed to bring the situation in Burundi under control and technical military cooperation is that military cooperation or assistance will necessarily have to respect the country's sovereignty, the existing institutions, and will only be able to work on the basis of its institutions' recommendations.

[Vigaa] Then how do you explain the outcry in your country against this military assistance?

[Baza] Some people believe it is a question of an armed invasion, when it is really a question of technical cooperation. [end recording]

Burundi: Citizens Demonstrate Against Foreign Military Intervention

**AB2906194696 Paris AFP in English
1927 GMT 29 Jun 96**

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bujumbura, Jun 29 (AFP) — Hundreds of demonstrators marched through Bujumbura on Saturday (29 June) to protest against foreign military intervention to quell ethnic violence in Burundi.

The protestors, rallied by former president Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, converged on Bujumbura football stadium where thousands of other supporters of the former leader were already assembled.

Bagaza, a Tutsi, who exerts powerful influence in the Tutsi-dominated army and among young Tutsis, has denounced the Burundian government for calling for military assistance during a regional summit in Arusha, northern Tanzania, last Tuesday.

The demonstrators on Saturday called for the return to power of the former president, who was toppled in

September 1987, and accused the current leadership of leading Burundi into chaos.

Diplomatic sources in Nairobi have said that military intervention involving Ugandan and Tanzanian forces could take place very soon.

Last Tuesday's summit marked the first time the Burundian government has sought outside help to restore peace in the country, where clashes between Hutu guerrillas and the Tutsi-dominated army have left tens of thousands dead in the past two and a half years.

Burundian Prime Minister Antoine Nduwayo on Tuesday took pains to make clear that Bujumbura was not seeking a military operation. "It is not a question of military intervention which would be imposed on us by force, but rather of help to ensure everyone's safety is assured," he said.

While the type of aid is yet to be determined, "we are not ruling out any means," he added, although the government has always said it is hostile to foreign intervention.

On Monday, a "technical committee" to determine military aid will meet for the first time, the Tanzanian Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

Chad

Chad: Government 'Clamping Down' on Parties Calling For Boycott

**AB2906184496 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 29 Jun 96**

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The campaigns are winding up in Chad today for the second round of the presidential elections due on 3 July. Incumbent President Idriss Deby takes on surprise challenger and old southern rival, Colonel Kamougue, and the authorities are determined that all should go off smoothly. After the first round, the main trade union organization, the UST (Federation of Chadian Trade Unions), called a boycott of the runoff, claiming that the first poll had been interfered with and manipulated by France, and eight opposition parties have joined the call with allegations of widespread rigging and fraud, but the authorities are having none of it and have taken tough measures. From Ndjamenah, Oulotah Begato telexed this report:

With campaigning for the second round of voting due to end tonight at midnight, the government has been clamping down on opposition parties and organizations who are endorsing a boycott of the second round of

voting. This morning, at 5 o'clock (0400 GMT), anti-riot squad forces encircled the central building of the Chadian Union Congress (as heard) or UST, preventing workers who'd turned up for a general assembly this morning from entering the building. The union was set to give instructions to its members on how to apply the election boycott on 3 July.

Yesterday, security forces broke up a meeting of eight opposition parties who are also calling for a boycott of the elections on 3 July. The meeting was scheduled to take place at 3 in the afternoon but at 2:30, organizers of the meeting were informed by officials from the Interior Ministry that the meeting was banned. A statement from the ministry was read out, saying that the rally had no other purpose but to debate the boycott of the elections, and was as such, inappropriate. Opposition supporters who had already turned up for the meeting were then ushered away by gendarmes. On the state media, all mention of the boycott has been censored, and all access to the state media by those parties supporting it has been denied.

Rwanda

Rwanda: UNHCR Reports 27 Killed in Massacre in Northwest

AB2906134596 Paris AFP in English
1003 GMT 29 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kigali, Jun 29 (AFP) — Twenty-seven people were killed in a massacre overnight in Gisenyi, northwest Rwanda, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR) said here Saturday (29 June).

Between 10 and 30 armed people attacked the commune of Giciye, shooting dead 15 people in the Rubare sector and 12 more at Nyamugaye, an UNHCR official at the Kigali bureau told AFP.

He said that 19 of the dead were believed to be survivors of the genocide in 1994 during Rwanda's civil war.

Rwanda: Security To Be Tightened After Genocide Survivors Killed

EA2906195896 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French
1800 GMT 29 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The problem of genocide survivors currently being targeted by the same people who plunged Rwanda into mourning in 1994 is the focus of concern of the Rwandan Government.

At yesterday's council of ministers meeting, chaired by President Pasteur Bizimungu, a program of mass mobilization aimed at strengthening unity and security in our country was decided. The council of ministers

also agreed to support the Ministry of National Defense so that it works better on the entire security problem.

The council of ministers studied the problem after one of the most terrible killings carried out lately against survivors of the 1994 genocide. In effect 28 survivors of the genocide were killed on the night of Thursday, 27 June, to Friday, 28 June. Six others were seriously injured in the cells (cellules: smallest administrative unit) of Kiruma and Muremure which are respectively in the sectors of Nyamugayo and Rubali, Giciye commune, Gisenyi prefecture. [passage omitted]

Sao Tome & Principe

Sao Tome & Principe: Voting Proceeding Smoothly Despite Delay in Polls Opening

AB3006173296 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1215 GMT 30 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Fifty two thousand voters are going to the polls today in Sao Tome Principe where 129 polling stations are open. For the first round of the presidential election, five candidates are running. They are Miguel Trovoada, the incumbent head of state, Manuel Pinto da Costa, his predecessor, former Prime Minister Carlos da Graca, Mrs. Alda Bandeira, former foreign minister, and journalist Armindo Tomba. For details on the conditions in which the election is taking place, Francis Salan Ngouabo talked to Manuel Barros, the managing director of the NOTICIAS newspaper.

[Begin Barros recording] Polling stations were supposed to open at 0700 GMT and close at 1300 GMT. But unfortunately, there were delays in the opening of several polling stations, especially in the districts of [Aguo Grande], the capital of the suburbs and of [Fedmezzochi] in the central part of the country. Voters are in majority in these two main districts. The National Electoral Commission has just explained that the delays were due to some organizational tasks they were still performing last night. But in any case, the voting is going on normally. Manuel Pinto da Costa cast his vote in [Pantufo] and Alda Bandeira also voted at the primary school here at about one kilometer from the center of the city. President Trovoada voted in the center of the city.

The voting is going on smoothly and I think that as from 2100 GMT, that is 2200 in Libreville, we will be able to get the first results of this election. [end recording]

Sao Tome & Principe: Candidates' Prospects Viewed

*AB3006135696 Paris AFP in English
0210 GMT 30 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sao Tome, Jun 30 (AFP) — The 52,000 voters on the tiny twin-island state of Sao Tome and Principe in the Gulf of Guinea had five candidates to choose from in Sunday's (30 June) presidential elections, which could see the defeat of outgoing head of state Miguel Trovada.

The favourite was former president Manuel Pinto da Costa, 58, the head between 1975 and 1991 of a Marxist-Leninist one-party state whose Sao Tome e Principe Liberation Movement (MLSTP) is again in the majority in parliament after three years in opposition.

But with such a small number of voters and no reliable opinion polls the slightest swing could have an effect.

Trovada, 60, who was elected head of state in 1991 with the support of the MLSTP, is the candidate of the party he formed since, the Independent Democratic Alliance (ADI).

He is expected to come second in a tight race with Carlos da Graça, 64, former prime minister who decided to stand as an independent after the MLSTP, of which he was secretary general, preferred da Costa as its official candidate.

Former foreign minister Alda Bandeira, 46, candidate of Democratic Convergence Party, the only group not represented in the present coalition government, is also considered in with a chance of making it to a run-off second round on July 21.

The fifth candidate, an independent, is journalist Armando Tomba, 39, campaigning against corruption and "to speak for those who suffer."

The elections are the first with more than one candidate in this former Portuguese candidate. Trovada's two rivals having pulled out before the vote in 1991.

Over the two week campaign observers noted a fall-off in enthusiasm for the outgoing president amid economic problems and political uncertainty.

With such a small electorate, much depends on which of the two leading candidates the losers back for the second round, but Sao Tomeans are skeptical about the promises of all the candidates.

Amid increased unemployment, soaring inflation and a shortage of basic necessities, they could abstain in mass, or fail to give any candidate strong backing.

Fifteen foreign observers from France, Portugal, the United States and the Organization of African Unity are monitoring the polls.

[Paris AFP in English at 1342 GMT on 30 June in a similar Sao Tome-dated item reports adds: "Polling stations in Sao Tome and Principe were unable to open on schedule Sunday for presidential elections for lack of ballot boxes, voting booths or personnel, officials and witnesses said."

[The reports further adds: "By midday, however, most polling stations in the Gulf of Guinea country off the west African coast remained closed because of organizational problems, the national electoral commission said. They were to have opened at 7:00 a.m., but a radio broadcast said election workers had spent the entire night "trying to ensure that everything would be in place on schedule, but unfortunately, everything couldn't get done in time."

["The exercise will have to be extended beyond the scheduled close of 6:00 p.m. (1800 GMT), posing the additional problem of lighting in areas that do not have electricity or suffer frequent power cuts."]

Zaire

Zaire: Unidentified Gunmen Attack Goma Refugee Camp

*AB2806183496 London BBC World Service
in English 1505 GMT 28 Jun 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There has been an attack on a Zairian security base at a big Rwandan refugee camp in eastern Zaire. It happened at the Kibumba Camp near Goma. The attack was launched by a large gang and among the victims were Zairian security personnel. On the line to Goma, Josephine Hazely asked Joe Butru of the UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees) what happened in the attack.

[Begin recording] [Butru] Well, what we know is that at around 7 and 8 o'clock last night, a group of yet unidentified armed persons around 40 to 50, attacked the Zairian camp security contingent at Kibumba Camp, and attacked at the same time, the warehouses of the Federation of the Red Cross.

[Hazely] Was there anyone killed?

[Butru] There were three guards of the federation of the Red Cross who were killed, two officers of the contingent were killed, three other soldiers wounded, and three other refugees or civilians were killed as well.

[Hazely] Was anybody injured?

[Butru] Yes. Three soldiers were injured. Although they were in the camp security contingent.

[Hazely] You have the feeling that the attack last night has particularly targeted at aid agencies or people connected to them?

[Butru] I think the attack was particularly targeted at the officer who was in command of the Zairian camp security contingent in Kibumba. In fact he was killed. His tent was targeted and his car was also bullet-riddled and he was killed as he was entering or leaving his tent to come to the rescue. So, I think this person, in particular, was killed, was targeted.

[Hazely] Why? Had he got a particular stand that is anti-somebody?

[Butru] Well, I would say this captain was particularly efficient, I would say, through try and stop or put a stop to the various infiltrations. It is an open secret that there are almost daily infiltrations from there into Rwanda. But of late, we have had also an increasing number, it would seem, of infiltrations from Rwanda into Zaire and I would think he had been quite successful in stopping that and this could explain, maybe, what happened last night. Now, as a matter of fact, the group of assailants was seen going back toward Rwanda after the attack.

[Hazely] What weapons did they use in this attack?

[Butru] A variety of weapons. They used mortar, RPGs and also some submachine guns, or something like that.

[Hazely] It sounded like quite intense attack.

[Butru] Yes. It was pretty intense it would seem, and in fact, the Zairian Camp Security Contingent did not have much of an opportunity to fight back. It would seem although there is a report that one of the assailants, would have been killed, but the body would have been carried back to where they came from.

[Hazely] You said the attackers who are yet unidentified, were seen going back into Rwanda. I mean, any idea who they might be? Could they be the Interahamwe?

[Butru] Well, what I can say is that they were all speaking Kirwanda and some sort of Swahili and I don't know. Everything is possible of course in this part of the world. I don't really see why Interahamwe would have done this one, although (?they have done a lot in past), but for this one I don't really see why and the rumor here is that it would have been more directly linked ... [pauses] the attackers would have been more directly linked to some Rwandese battalion who are inside Rwanda just sitting near the border with Kibumba Camp. [end recording]

South Africa: ANC Wins 230, IFP Wins 116 Seats in Metro Areas

MB2806125896 Johannesburg SAsm Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 28 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The cumulative total of seats confirmed in the TLCs [Transitional Local Councils] and the metro areas contested in the KwaZulu/Natal elections show that the ANC has 230 seats, and the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] 116. The National Party and Independents have 104 each, Ratepayers have 81, the DP [Democratic Party] 34, the Minority Front 10, and other parties a total of 17. The ANC has put in a strong showing in urban ward seats, while first results from rural areas show strong support for the IFP.

South Africa: IFP Still Majority Party in Natal; Official Annals Media

MB0107075096 Johannesburg SABC 2 Television Network in English 0400 GMT 1 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] seems assured of retaining its position as the largest political party in KwaZulu/Natal when the final election results are announced later today. By late last night the only results still outstanding were for three of the seven regional councils. The IFP has already palmed in 40 percent of the votes, while the ANC had just under 35, the National Party 14, and the DP [Democratic Party] 5 percent. Despite its clear lead, indications are that the IFP could have lost about 10 percent of its support in the past two years.

Meanwhile, the official results from the Durban metropolitan area, which gave the ANC 47.96 percent of the vote, will be contested in the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court today. The IFP is trying to nullify the results in more than 20 wards in the Inanda and Umlazi regions, and most wards in the Southern Substructure. There have also been complaints by the ANC and other parties about election irregularities, and these will be investigated by the election task group.

KwaZulu/Natal MEC [member of the Executive Council] for Local Government Peter Miller has lashed out at the media for its coverage of the province's government elections. Mr. Miller said the media portrayed the elections as a political contest for the province. He said that this couldn't be further from the truth. He said the media had failed to highlight the fact that the results would in no way affect the provincial government, which was in power until the next elections in 1999.

South Africa: Final Election Results Expected To Take 'Several' Days

MB2806172596 Johannesburg SAsm Radio Network in English 1600 GMT 28 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It could still take several days before all the results of the KwaZulu/Natal local government elections are in. Political editor Pippa Green explains:

[Begin Green recording] All the TLC [Transitional Local Council] results are in. We expect the Durban metropolitan results; we are only waiting for the proportional representation results later. The big problem is in the rural areas. Already there has been a strike at one of the counting stations in Uthmaniyana, which is the area where Regional Council 1 is, and they'd had to hire new counters, and there have been problems with in at least one case of opened ballot box, and party agents are disputing results in the rural areas, so I really think that we could be talking quite a few days for all the rural results to be in, but the urban results will be pretty much in by tonight. [end recording]

With all council results from KwaZulu/Natal small towns in, the ANC leads the pack with 46 percent of the total vote. Of the 61 TLCs in the province, two will hold by-elections. Elections did not take place at Nongoma, as there were not enough nominations. The NP [National Party] follows with 21.8 percent, while the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] got 17.7 percent of the vote. The DP [Democratic Party] secured 5.6 percent of the vote; while the Minority Front trails with 1.5 percent.

IFP spokesman Ziba Jiyane says that, despite the party's poor showing in urban areas, it's well on its way to confirming its status as the majority party in the province. Most of the results still due in are from rural areas, where the IFP seems set to secure majorities in most areas. The party is doing well in the lower south coast rural areas, and is netting more than 60 percent of the vote to the ANC's 32 percent.

Initial results show that the IFP will score an overwhelming victory in Regional Council 1, which stretches from the Tugela River to the Mozambican border. Votes in four polling districts have been counted so far, and at Inkandla, near Eshowe, the IFP has won almost 97 percent of the votes. In Regional Council 2, which includes the Ulundi and Nongoma areas, the IFP has also won more than 70 percent of the votes in two districts.

South Africa: 'Human Error' Delays Election Results Until 1 Jul

*MB2906171096 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1012 GMT 29 Jun 96*

[Report by Angela Quintal]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PIETERMARITZBURG June 29 SAPA — Official election results in KwaZulu-Natal, including those for the Durban metropolitan area, ground to a halt on Saturday [29 June] because of human error.

Local government MEC [Member of the Executive Council] Peter Miller abandoned his last scheduled press conference for the week on Saturday morning after he realised he was announcing incorrect results.

Data-capturing has apparently gone awry and the computer programmer is en-route to Cape Town. Election officials are now inputting results manually.

Meanwhile, rural results where the ruling Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] is expected to consolidate its support are still outstanding.

Only one of the seven regional council results are nearly completed.

According to statistics provided by the National Party [NP], both the ANC and the NP have increased their support since the general elections in the Durban Metro area. Using proportional results, the ANC had increased its support from 45.8 per cent to 47.76 per cent and the NP from 19.2 to 23.96 per cent, NP spokesman Pieter van Pletzen. According to the NP statistics, the IFP's support had decreased substantially from 23.03 per cent to 12.9 per cent.

Although official results from the Newcastle TLC [Transitional Local Council] is still outstanding, it is understood that the ANC has won the majority of seats in this large industrial town. Of the 61 TLCs, Independents and Ratepayers are in control of 22, the ANC 19, the IFP 11 and the NP 4. Five of the TLCs are split.

However, in the six Durban metropolitan substructures the ANC has the majority so far.

Results are expected by mid-afternoon. Miller said final local government results would only be available on Monday.

South Africa: Electoral Tribunal To Hear KwaZulu/Natal Disputes

*MB2806163396 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1535 GMT 28 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PIETERMARITZBURG June 28 SAPA—A special electoral tribunal will decide on the validity of the local government polls in Shakaville in Stanger and Table Mountain, east of Pietermaritzburg, following allegations of intimidation, Local Government MEC [Member of the Executive Council] Peter Miller said on Friday [28 June].

Senior counsel had informed him the matter was not a matter for the Supreme Court but for the specially constituted tribunal, he told a media briefing. Electoral officials had been directed to begin counting the ballots cast in these areas immediately. The results would be declared later, but would be subject to the tribunal's ruling.

Miller said he had met the multiparty elections task team and it had been agreed that the parties who were alleging irregularities would make the application before the tribunal.

An application by the provincial government to have the elections declared null and void in Umzumbe on the lower south coast, where polling stations failed to open, and district 14, bordering Vryheid and Dundee, where the incorrect ballots were used, would be heard in the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court before a two-judge bench on Tuesday.

South Africa: IFP To Seek Court Action Over Election Results

*MB3006175396 Johannesburg SAsm Radio Network
in English 0500 GMT 30 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Official results in the KwaZulu/Natal local government election in the Durban metropole, released last night, show the ANC winning 47.96 percent of the vote. The National Party won 23.62 percent, with the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] third, with 12.73 percent. Mr. Amichand Rajbansi's Minority Front was fourth, with 5.9 percent, ahead of the Democratic Party, with 5.76 percent. Ratepayers won 8.44 percent of the vote, and Independents 6.34.

The IFP announced last night that it would bring a supreme court action tomorrow to nullify the results in more than 20 wards in the Inanda and Umlazi regions, and most wards in the southern substructure. Party spokesperson Ed Tillet alleged that ANC members had hijacked the elections in certain black wards,

chased away election officials, and conducted the election themselves. Meanwhile, the Elections Task Group in Pietermaritzburg said the Proportional Representational List was provisional, because of the pending IFP supreme court action and an action to be brought by another unnamed party. (passage omitted)

South Africa: NP Suspend KwaZulu/Natal Election Candidate for Fraud

MB2806165596 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 27 Jun 96 p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] Durban National Party [NP] metropole candidate Naranuk Jumuna has been suspended temporarily by his party. He did not contest Wednesday's [26 June] elections.

According to NP spokesperson Pieter Pietzen, Jumuna's suspension is linked to a charge of fraud against him. He appeared in the Durban regional court on Monday after he allegedly submitted to the state false claims for diesel worth 600,000 rands between 1989 and 1991.

A political row broke out this week after it became known that Jumuna was convicted in an Irish court for allegedly murdering his girlfriend in 1963. According to other parties, it's unbelievable how the NP could have pushed a candidate into the field who has been convicted of murder, while the party is pleading for the reinstatement of the death sentence.

Van Pietzen said the decision to suspend him was not linked to the homicide incident.

South Africa: Nationwide Antiprivatization Strike To Proceed 2 Jul

MB0107132096 Johannesburg THE STAR (BUSINESS REPORT Supplement) in English 1 Jul 96 p 1

[Report by Francoise Botha]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town — The nationwide antiprivatisation transport strike called for tomorrow will go ahead, union officials said yesterday, despite an interdict granted last week by a Gauteng court. The interdict was designed to prevent the Transport and General Workers Union from participating in the dispute.

The impending strike has been called by the 68,000-strong union to force the government to include union input in the public transport debate, which has been deadlocked to now.

Sam Shilowa, COSATU's [Congress of South African Trade Unions] general secretary, said on Friday [28

June] that the federation supported the transport union's action and "affiliates would give solidarity to the action within their means and based on the discussions on the shop floor".

Labour morale has been buoyed by the perception that the planned July 13 strike called by the labour movement to protest against the banks' May 17 rate increase was reversed by the threat of strike action. Union leaders have decided to cancel the July 13 strike.

Randall Howard, the transport union's general secretary, said tomorrow's strike would go ahead. According to reports, the strike call has been bolstered by pledges of support from the South African Taxi Drivers' Union and bus drivers.

The union has planned marches in most main centres, including Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

The granting of a court interdict to the Road Freight Transport Association last week would not impede the strike action, union officials said. Thami Makeleni, the union's Western Cape regional secretary, said the union had asked all shop stewards from the different freight companies to speak with management to negotiate conditions for the strike to avoid problems with the Road Freight Transport Association.

"If they fail to reach agreement on conditions of participation with management, in terms of the interdict they will not be (legally) able to participate," he said. Makeleni would not say whether the members would take action individually and ignore agreements.

"The workers are very unhappy. Should government's response to the strike be negative, we may consider further action, but it will depend on the response from the department of transport," Makeleni said.

The union has been engaged in discussions with the department in a bid to stop amendments to the Road Transport Act dealing with the privatisation of public transport proposed in a Green Paper.

"We want to make inputs on the question of ownership of public transport and on the structure of the tendering process," Makeleni said.

No time frame has been stipulated for the privatisation, but once agreement has been reached on the Green Paper amendments, a White Paper will be presented to the cabinet for approval.

The Road Freight Transport Association could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Angola

Angola: Das Santos Appoints New Deputy Ministers, Governor

MB2606202396 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 28 Jun 96

(Press communique issued by the Office of the President in Luanda on 28 June)

(FBIIS Translated Text) His excellency Engineer Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Republic, using the powers conferred on him by Article 148.2, Paragraph B of Article 60, and Article 104 of the Constitution, under the proposal of Prime Minister Dr. Franca van Dunem, today issued eight presidential decrees through which he appointed the following:

Ezelino Mendes, governor of Bengo Province;

Dionisio (Suimbifonia), deputy minister of youth and sports;

Abrao Pio dos Santos Gurgel, deputy minister of industry;

Teresa de Jesus Cohen dos Santos, deputy minister of health;

Paulino Domingos Baptista, deputy minister of hotel industry and tourism;

Manuel da Cruz Neto, deputy minister of trade;

Abilio Augusto Ferreira de Lemos Almeida Gomes, deputy minister of finance;

Luís Filipe Teixeira, deputy minister of finance.

(Issued) Office of the President of the Republic, Luanda, 28 June 1996.

Angola: Council of Ministers Holds First Meeting, Issues Communique

MB2906172996 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 28 Jun 96

(“Communique” issued by the Council of Ministers on 28 June)

(FBIIS Translated Text) The newly sworn-in government held its first Council of Ministers meeting in Luanda today, under the chairmanship of Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Republic, in order to examine and approve economic and financial measures which govern the government's Program of Action for the second half of this year. They will also approve the draft law which defines the new government's structure.

By approving a Program of Action for the second half of 1996 today, the government hopes to resolve the serious economic and social crisis by defining economic,

foreign exchange, budget, revenue and prices, financial and credit, and productive sector policies which will govern its action in the next six months.

In this context, it approved for immediate implementation a decree which increases the price of fuel, as well as a decree which bans imports resorting to one's own funds, the so-called non spending of foreign currency plan, stipulating profit margins on the basis of open market prices. The government also approved a program designed to increase the supply of bread and guarantee the subsequent price reduction.

Also within the framework of the government's immediate measures, the Council of Ministers heard the National Bank of Angola's (BNA) report on the operation of foreign exchange bureaus, the establishment of a single foreign exchange rate, and the BNA's foreign exchange policy on trade and exporters' credit.

With regard to these decrees, we would like to stress that the price of bread will be subsidized by up to 50 percent of the cost of wheat and wheat flour in a subsequent phase.

Furthermore, a single foreign exchange rate has been established which will be based on BNA's stipulated foreign exchange rate and will be adjusted in accordance with existing market conditions.

We would also like to stress that the decrees connected with trade activities, allow businessmen to play a more responsible role in adhering to market mechanisms, and the government to adopt measures designed to correct eventual anomalies in prices. Thus, the Council of Ministers also approved profit margins for goods and services, covering all commercial networks.

In order to guarantee its effectiveness and efficiency, the government decided to adopt a new organic composition which abolishes the State Secretariat for Cooperation whose functions will now be exercised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and create the Ministry of Tourism and Hotel Industry, taking into account the Lusaka Accords.

The present government's structure, apart from clarifying its composition, creates new specialized consultative organs for the Council of Ministers, namely the Traditional Authorities National Council, the Foreign Relations Commission, the Economic and Social Affairs Commission, and the Regional and Local Affairs Commission. These commissions have the task of preparing subjects for the subsequent approval by the Council of Ministers. In this context, the Council of Ministers approved the decree which regulates the operation of the Foreign Relations Commission, which, as an internal

body of the Council of Ministers, guarantees the preparation of the country's foreign policy subjects.

In today's session, the Council of Ministers approved regulations on military service release to establish necessary conditions and procedures for the implementation of release from military service, transfer to reserves, and retirement of the Armed Forces. One of the immediate objectives of this regulation is to normalize the situation of former troops from the government's People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, UNITA's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, and some war veterans, with regard to the definition of their military situation and their transfer into the reserves or retirement.

A resolution on the appointment of the new management board of the Angola National Diamond Enterprise (Eadiama) was approved by the Council of Ministers. Engineer Jose Domingos Dias is the new Eadiama president and Engineer Paulino Neto is his assistant. Engineers Joao de Almeida and Francisco da Cunha Bernardo have been appointed Eadiama managers by the ministries of Geology and Mines, and Finance, respectively.

The Council of Ministers also heard reports on the peace process and the reduction of expenditures in Angola's diplomatic and consular missions abroad.

[Issued] Luanda, 28 June 1996.

Angola: Interview With UNITA Leader Savimbi

LD2806150696 Lisbon Radio Renaissance
in Portuguese to Europe 2200 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Jonas Savimbi granted an interview in Morocco to our reporter Mario Ribeiro. [passage omitted]

One of the fresh developments disclosed by Jonas Savimbi in this interview is the plan to open a UNITA delegation in Rome in the near future, a move regarded by Savimbi as rapprochement with the Catholic Church:

[Begin recording] [Savimbi] We must get close to everyone who may potentially contribute to peace, and we believe that Italy is in a position to do so. Both the Italian Government itself, for it has interests in our part of the world, and above all the Church, the Vatican, which has great moral influence and to which we therefore wish to convey our message directly.

[Ribeiro] What contacts have you had with the Vatican?

[Savimbi] Through our priests in Rome, through the friends we have in Rome and through envoys we have

been sending to Rome. I believe that our contacts are developing apace.

[Ribeiro] Any chance of being received by Pope John Paul II?

[Savimbi] I would like that to happen; we have requested an audience. It will depend on the Vatican's willingness to grant it.

[Ribeiro] Did you regard the dismissal of Prime Minister Marcelino Moco as inevitable?

[Savimbi] I do not know about that. Such things happen within government circles. I am not current with internal differences of opinion and suchlike. All I do is note what happens.

[Ribeiro] But I believe you have contacts with members of the government and with President Eduardo dos Santos himself.

[Savimbi] Of course I have a good relationship with the president of the republic, even from here [in Morocco]. I have already telephoned the president of the republic to let him know my whereabouts and to ask him to keep me posted on the situation and on the progress of the negotiations with the UNITA delegation in Luanda.

The president wrote to me — a confidential letter, of course — but did not give me his reasons for dismissing the prime minister. That is an internal government problem.

[Ribeiro] With the creation of two vice presidencies the post of prime minister will in all likelihood become meaningless — if it was not so already. What is your opinion on this?

[Savimbi] My views are exactly the same as those of the UNITA delegation negotiating the revision of the constitution: Either we have a prime minister and the vice presidencies can be done away with, or we have the vice presidencies but no prime minister. This is currently under discussion. In my opinion there would be an overlap of jurisdictions. What would the vice presidents' tasks be? This is a point on which UNITA disagrees with the government. We do not want vice presidents whose job is merely to cut ceremonial ribbons.

[Ribeiro] Do you believe that the latest government reshuffle will make it possible, as President Eduardo dos Santos said, to put an end to corruption, to have greater transparency in government? Do you believe Luanda is truly committed to bringing this about?

[Savimbi] I cannot pass judgement in advance. There is no one new [in the reshuffled government]. Dr. Franca Van Dunem himself was prime minister before and has

held several ministerial posts. No new figures have been brought in. I would like this to change. Fresh people are needed to launch a national drive. I do not mean that the old ones should quit, but there is a need for fresh blood to help change old habits. Over the past 20 years people became accustomed to certain work methods. One speech alone does not suffice to change all that, I think.

[Ribeiro] Is this idea about fresh blood in any way related to UNITA's proposal that the future national unity government should cast its net wider? That instead of being made up only of UNITA and the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] it should include all the parties represented in parliament?

[Savimbi] Yes, absolutely.

[Ribeiro] How would that happen in practice? Don't you think it will be harder to run things with many different people than with just two political parties?

[Savimbi] Well, I think that if they could not manage it with one [party], it would not be much easier with [only] two. So if you can't do it with one, let us do it with five or ten. It is not so much a question of figures, but if you go by figures, there was the figure one [single party in power], and one achieved nothing. So let us have more.

Our formula would at least have the merit of bringing in all those who received votes from the people, people who therefore enjoy a certain measure of confidence or sympathy among the population. Let them be in the government to represent what they stand for. At least it has this merit of gathering together elected representatives to discuss the country's problems.

Because UNITA and the MPLA alone cannot solve Angola's economic and social problems. They cannot. It will take a long time, spanning generations. Because the country's infrastructures have rotted away. But not just the infrastructures, there is also the question of the bad habits acquired during this period.

As far as I am concerned, the most important thing is to give the Angolan people the certainty that dialogue is possible, that we are all brothers. Our idea has this merit at least. As for economic and social issues, that is another problem that will take a long time to tackle.

[Ribeiro] Would you say that with such grave social problems the ordinary Angolan citizen has become more embittered, harder, more corrupt?

[Savimbi] Well, let us not put it like that. It is not a question of the ordinary citizen, but rather, so to speak, of those in power. They have acquired bad habits over the past 20 years. It is not just me saying it, the Luanda papers say it too. The ordinary citizen does not

endorse corruption, he adapts himself. If he is not given economic room, if he is not allowed to make his living with a trade, then he is forced to devise his own scams. But corruption does not originate at the level of the ordinary citizen. It is impossible for corruption to start at the level of the man in the street. It is bound to start among those who yield power.

[Ribeiro] I understand that the vice president [who will represent UNITA in the government] will be nominated by the UNITA congress. Given your background, would you rather be a vice president in a future Angolan Government or remain as UNITA leader?

[Savimbi] I have said it before, and my position remains unchanged: I wish to serve. I wish to serve Angola. But I am a party man. So it will be up to my party to decide. If the party decides that I must become vice president of the republic, then I shall step forward. But in that event I cannot remain as party leader. Because the party, UNITA, must rebuild itself. We have had our disasters — military, political, diplomatic. Someone must lead the party for a prolonged period so that we can rebuild our values. This cannot be done by someone being both vice president [of Angola] and party leader.

Alternatively, if they decide that I am to remain in the party, then we shall have to nominate someone else for the vice presidency.

[Ribeiro] What names are being mentioned among the UNITA leadership for such an eventuality?

[Savimbi] No names as such yet, because we have not even started the preparatory work for the third extraordinary congress. But they must have some ideas. I have none. It will be the prerogative of congress to put forward any names.

[Ribeiro] Abel Chivukuvuku is being mentioned a lot.

[Savimbi] If that is their way of thinking, at least, they have told me nothing about it.

[Ribeiro] Do you think he has what it takes?

[Savimbi] He is an experienced man, yes, he has the experience. [passage omitted]

[Ribeiro] Now that we have reached the final straight in the process of confining the troops [to designated areas], what is your view of the UN's role in monitoring the process? Are you happy with it?

[Savimbi] It is very difficult to assess, and different people will have different views. The one thing I will say is that the merit was all on UNITA's side, the merit was all UNITA's. UNITA put up with all the insults, UNITA put up with all the lies, UNITA put up with

all the distortions, and UNITA forged ahead. The merit was all UNITA's. Of its generals, its private soldiers, its political leaders.

As for what the UN has done, they are always having it both ways, congratulating us on the one hand while, on the other, saying something quite different at the same time.

I don't have a problem with the UN, and I am consistent in this view. Why am I consistent in my view? Because the presence of UNAVEM-3 [UN Angola Verification Mission] in Angola was a necessity. If the Angolans had managed to come to an understanding among themselves before, then we might have been able to do without it. Because the UN is not all good things. I saw what the UN did in the Congo, in Zaire, and we do not need that here.

So I sincerely wish the Angolans to get on together so that we can see the back of UNAVEM. I fervently wish them to go. They insulted us, they lied to us, but never mind. Their six-month term is coming to an end, and what is six months in the life of a nation? I am looking forward to a time when the UN has gone from here. We must behave responsibly as those in charge of our country's destiny. So what they [the UN] say is not all that important.

[Ribeiro] Let us talk about Portugal for a moment. Do you find a difference of attitude toward Angola between the Cavaco Silva and Guterres governments?

[Savimbi] The [Guterres] government has not been in office long enough for us to pass judgement. But at least there is the difference that this government is willing to engage in dialogue. [passage omitted] I am not saying that this government has a different policy, for I do not know what interests are at stake between the MPLA government and Portugal. But at least they have the merit of being willing to listen to us.

[Ribeiro] As you may know, there are strong ties between the [Portuguese] Government led by Antonio Guterres and the Angolan Government. I would remind you that [Secretary of State for Cooperation] Jose Lamago was instrumental in securing membership of the Socialist International for the MPLA. Are you not disturbed by this?

[Savimbi] Not at all. What does the Socialist International amount to these days?

[Ribeiro] But it reflects a certain empathy between the two governments, so to speak.

[Savimbi] That is not important. I believe that a time will come when Portugal's political leaders must take a statesmanlike attitude. And I am going to reiterate

something that we feel very deeply: Angola cannot avoid Portugal. Not just because of the ancient ties that bind us together — the culture, the language, and so on — but also because of the current political context in which everyone interested in Angola goes to Portugal first for information.

This is a fact that UNITA accepts. But we also wish to put a message across to Portugal ourselves. Which is that Portugal cannot ignore UNITA. We have been here for 30 years and we are not going away. [passage omitted].

[Ribeiro] What is your current relationship with President Eduardo dos Santos? Do you talk much?

[Savimbi] Even from here [in Morocco] I have telephoned him several times. We must liaise. We have a good understanding. If everything depended only on him and me, I believe that we would have made much swifter progress. But we each have our own troops to answer to, and that is the important thing.

[Ribeiro] What brings you together at this stage?

[Savimbi] On the part of the president of the republic I believe it is the wish to leave an imprint in the political and economic life of Angola. He knows that for all of its 20 years in power the MPLA has not managed to govern the country. The MPLA has not managed to govern and I would like to believe that, as a patriot and responsible leader, he would like to do something, to make some contribution to improving the people's economic well-being.

As for me, I want to see Angola find a way out of this situation of permanent tutelage. The Angolans must find the capacity to govern themselves. There is a space they must occupy. So I think we are all agreed that the time has come for us to make a more positive contribution to the political, economic, and social life of our country.

[Ribeiro] I have heard that the president of ENDIAMA [Angola's national diamond company] visited Bailundo [UNITA stronghold]. Is this true?

[Savimbi] It is true but he did not talk to me. He had no business talking to me. I do not enter into talks about stones. I have not sunk so low as to discuss our diamond wells [as heard].

[Ribeiro] Those stones are precious to UNITA.

[Savimbi] Yes they are, but I have not sunk that low. He had talks with other UNITA officials. I still don't know what they talked about because it was not important enough for me to ask for an immediate report. Yes, he paid a visit. We acknowledge that there are ongoing discussions, very realistic discussions.

[Ribeiro] But are not talks going on at present, or perhaps a deal has already been struck, between the Brazilians of [name indistinct] company, ENDIAMA, and UNITA with a view to exploiting the country's diamond resources?

[Savimbi] No, no. That is not true. The first contact, which I believe was positive, friendly, between ENDIAMA and our people in the UNITA leadership, was this recent meeting in Bailuado. So they are looking at possible understandings. [passage omitted].

The fact is, UNITA cannot be left without resources. It cannot. You cannot ask for everything: Let us have your army! Here, have it. Let us have your weapons! Here, have them. Let us have your money! Oh come on, get real! Nobody will accept that.

[Ribeiro] Are you prepared to channel some of the money, or the diamonds themselves, toward the reconstruction of Angola, namely of its economy?

[Savimbi] Let us see. There is something to be noted here between brackets. It is a fact that when the [peace] process reaches its conclusion UNITA must accept the central government's jurisdiction over all the territory today controlled by UNITA. That is an accepted fact. [passage omitted] As to whether the diamonds will go to the national economy, I have my doubts. Judging by what is happening in the Lundas [provinces] it looks unlikely. Those diamonds are more likely to end up lining certain generals' pockets. But that is none of my business.

[Ribeiro] Are you afraid of the Luanda generals?

[Savimbi] Never was! Never! Besides, I don't deal with generals, I deal with politicians. I am no longer a general, I'm a politician. A general in the reserve list is not really a general any more.

[Ribeiro] Do you definitely believe that peace is unavoidable and that there is no way that the war can return to Angola?

[Savimbi] As far as UNITA is concerned, yes. As far as the government is concerned, I do not know. What I can say as far as the government is concerned — but I would not hold my hands over a flame over it — is that President Eduardo dos Santos is keen on peace. He is. Now, whether everyone else is keen, that I do not know.

[Ribeiro] Still regarding rapprochement with Portugal. What role do you see UNITA playing in the setting up of a commonwealth of Portuguese-speaking countries [to be formally created in Lisbon next month]?

[Savimbi] At least to reflect on it, to share its thoughts with those interested in creating a Portuguese-speaking space...

[Ribeiro, interrupting] Do you think it an important space?

[Savimbi] Yes, it is important, but they are going about defining it in the wrong way. They are defining it on the basis of the regimes in power, on the sole basis of language and culture, and business. Let it be defined as a strategic space, a political-strategic space, and then the business, the language, the regimes will all fall into place within this framework, which is much more important. [passage omitted] (end recording)

Mozambique

Mozambique: Chissano Chides Zambia for Constitutional Amendment

*MB2906200296 Maputo Radio Maputo in English
1800 GMT 29 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique has chided the authorities in Zambia for the constitutional amendment that effectively prevents former President Kenneth Kaunda from standing again for the nation's presidential elections. The amendment devalues the citizenship of those Zambians whose parents were born outside Zambia by making them ineligible for the presidency. Kaunda's parents were immigrants from neighboring Malawi.

Yesterday, Chissano attended the summit of heads of state and government of the Southern African Development Community, SADC, which set up a community defense and security body. The unrest in Zambia was one of the issues on the agenda of the summit.

When he returned to Maputo, Chissano told a news conference that while Mozambique would respect decisions taken by the Zambian people, he regretted that these measures had been taken in regard to the citizenship of Kenneth Kaunda. Chissano said he thought this could have been avoided. As citizens of another country, Mozambique did not follow all the stages of the discussion.

Zambian President Frederick Chiluba did not attend yesterday's summit. He sent his Foreign Minister Christopher Tembo to represent him. Conflicting reasons were given for President Chiluba's absence. The chairman of the Defense and Security body of the SADC is President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe. Mugabe stressed that the body would not be used to interfere in the internal affairs of member states and would respect members' territorial integrity.

Zambia

Zambia: Kaunda Says 'Nobody' To Stop Him From Contesting Elections

MB3006181096 (Internet) Zambia Today in English
28 Jun 96

[Originally filed by the ZAMBIA NEWS AGENCY: "Kaunda Maintains His Intention To Break The Law"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Former state president, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, said in Zambezi that there is nobody apart from the UNIP [United National Independence Party] who can stop him from contesting the republican presidency in the forthcoming elections. He said he was invited back to politics after the 1991 defeat by chiefs in the country when they saw that Zambia was being plunged into chaos by the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] government. Dr. Kaunda was saying this in an interview last night at the motel upon arrival from Kabompo on his continued tour of the province. He said he and his vice president, Senior Chief Jayambo Yeta, will stand and nobody will stop them. Dr. Kaunda said it will be disastrous for Zambia if the amended constitution was left like that.

"We have great respect for our party, nation, region and the future of Zambia. So we shall take action against them, as we are action oriented and will use civil disobedience as a weapon for struggle," he said. Dr. Kaunda is touring North-Western Province to assure people that he will contest the presidency in the forthcoming general and parliamentary elections and woo support from the general public.

Zambia: Police Assault UNIP Members Outside Court Building

MB2806132996 Lusaka THE POST in English
28 Jun 96

[Report by Reuben Phiri: "Cops Batter UNIP MCC [Members of the Central Committee]" — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Four opposition UNIP [United National Independence Party] members, including the party's central committee member, Sam Moyo, were yesterday seriously battered by the youthful policemen who had encircled Lusaka's High and Supreme Court buildings for the hearing of the habeas corpus application by the eight UNIP leaders and members detained on treason charges.

Police also flexed their long batons on TIMES OF ZAMBIA photographer Eddie Mwanaleza, who attempted to take an action picture of police battering a UNIP cadre near the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. Mwanaleza sustained swellings at the back of the head and Central Police Commanding Officer George Kauseni, who was at the courts, was later seen apologizing to the photographer. And Moyo and a Mafuta Phiri were later arrested and detained by police.

Defense lawyer and Kasengwa UNIP Member of Parliament Professor Patrick Mvunga asked justice Peter Chitengi to take judicial notice of the harassment of his party members by police saying the court was not a barracks, neither was it a military camp. "Police were there to maintain the peace, but not to be party to a situation that can lead to violence," Professor Mvunga told the court.

Justice Chitengi asked Chief Inspector Wamulwange Mwanang'ono, officer-in-charge at the courts, to find out what was happening. "It is true that there was a fracas and police had to arrest some people," Mwanang'ono reported back to the court after a check. Justice Chitengi then asked Mwanang'ono whether he had told the police that if they continued (causing violence outside) then we would all troop out of here (court). Mwanang'ono said he had conveyed the message.

According to an eye witness, Bonewell Daka, the clash was ignited after police tried to block Moyo from leaving the police cordon to join other cadres who were outside the cordon. "He was trying to leave, but a policewoman objected saying he would incite the others to riot, but when he insisted, she ordered the paramilitary officers around to beat him up," Narrated Daka. In the clash that ensued, Moyo, was badly beaten by the baton charging policemen while another one, identified only as Bertha, was seriously injured and sustained deep cuts on the head. The others who were wounded were Fostina and Sally. Moyo, who was earlier rushed to the hospital, was nabbed after a group of armed policemen stormed the hospital and arrested him. He was only released after intervention by a team of UNIP lawyers and taken to the hospital again where he was treated and discharged. But police spokesman Francis Musonda refused to comment and said he had not received a report on the matter.

Cote d'Ivoire

Cote d'Ivoire: Aide Announces President in France for Medical Care

AB0107120096 Paris AFP in English
1135 GMT 1 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Paris, Jul 1 (AFP) — Ivory Coast President Henri Konan Bedie has for more than a week been in France where he is undergoing medical treatment, his aides disclosed Monday [1 July].

"President Bedie is in perfect health," the same sources nevertheless declared, responding to contrary rumours. The head of state has not been back in his country since the start of June.

Bedie, born in 1934, arrived in the French capital to receive the 1995 Felix Houphouet Boigny prize, named after the late Ivorian president, from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural organization (UNESCO), jointly with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, and her aides.

Cote d'Ivoire: Air Ivoire Aircraft Crashes; 3 Reported Dead

AB2806140496 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French
1245 GMT 28 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] A King Air aircraft belonging to the Air Ivoire Company crashed this morning near the transmitting station of the Ivorian Radio and Television Broadcasting Company [RTI] in the region of Bouafie. The officer in charge of the RTI's transmitting station, who visited the scene, observed that there were three charred bodies in the wreckage.

When we interrogated Commander Zomi of the Air Transport and Liaison Group, he assured us that the aircraft was really a King Air aircraft belonging to the national Air Ivoire Company, and that it was on a training flight. It left Yamoussoukro at 0822. At 0855 — about half an hour later — there was no news of the aircraft which was piloted by Commander Ouattara. At 0900, some villagers in the Bouafie region, near the RTI transmitting station, went to the station to report the crash. Firemen then went to the scene.

Guinea

Guinea: 'Discontent' Noted Between Opposition Parties

AB0107083295 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1215 GMT 30 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] There is discontent within the Coordination of Democratic Opposition [CODEM], between the Party for Renewal and Progress led by

Siradou Diallo, and the Rally of Guinean People led by Alpha Conde. Rumors go as far as to say that there is a conflict between the leaders of the two parties.

The chairman of the CODEM, Mr. Mamadou Ba, said that this is an exaggeration and that the disagreement lies just in strategies. Details with Mr. Ba talking to reporter Ben Daouda Silla:

[Begin recording] [Ba] Siradiou Diallo thinks that the time is rather delicate, that the situation is difficult for the president. He thinks that we should extend a hand toward the head of state and try to negotiate. Unfortunately, Alpha Conde is of the view that this is not useful and that negotiations with the government will yield no results. He said he did not want to hold negotiations with this regime.

[Silla] What is the stand adopted by Mamadou Ba?

[Ba] I might be the one in the best position since I have already tried this strategy. I tried to sign an agreement with the Party for (?Unity and Progress) (?PUP) and it came to nothing. So today, I am completely at ease to say that effectively, one cannot negotiate with the (?PUP) which does not want any ally.

[Silla] Don't you think that this commotion within the CODEM could really weaken the Guinean opposition before the 1998 elections?

[Ba] No, No. We should acknowledge the fact that 1998 is not here yet and the Guinean movement exist everywhere. The (?PUP) has made progress and people may not know much about that. But they should first hold their congress and we will see if the (?PUP) does not experience a split. This is what will happen. So, CODEM too, will have its own strategy. There are those who want to extend a friendly hand to the power and thus have a third centrist force, and those who believe that there is nothing to negotiate with the ruling power and that we should remain in a hard core opposition.
[end recording]

Liberia

Liberia: ECOMOG Declares Monrovia 'Safe Haven'

AB2806165596 Paris AFP in English
1640 GMT 28 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, June 28 (AFP) — The west African peacekeeping force ECOMOG redeclared Monrovia to be a "safe haven" on Friday [28 June], after a four-week search for arms and ammunition in the battle-wracked Liberian capital.

ECOMOG field commander Major General John Inlenger told reporters that his troops had uncovered

10,515 rifles, 168 bombs, 47 submachine guns, eight machine guns, seven rocket-propelled grenades and 17 revolvers.

He said the arms were found in many parts of Monrovia and its suburbs, including Congotown, Paynesville, Sinkor and the Barclay Training Center, a downtown barracks.

Inienger said the arms have been verified and recorded by the UN observer mission in Liberia, known as UNOMIL.

He added that ECOMOG has resumed 24-hour security patrol in the city and its suburbs, while the search for arms is to continue.

Fighters who surrender their arms might still be seen roaming the streets because "they have the right as Liberians to live in the city as long as they do not carry arms or propagate war," he said.

He also said that Liberia's transitional council of state was now free to resume "normal activities" now that ECOMOG is satisfied with the level of security in the city.

The government has remained in limbo since April when factional fighting broke out in Monrovia over attempts by the council of state to arrest Krahn leader "General" Roosevelt Johnson.

**Liberia: ECOMOG Commander Verifies
Monrovia's Safe Haven Status**

*AB3006142596 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 29 Jun 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] According to the African peacekeeping force, ECOMOG (Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group), Monrovia, the Liberian capital, is once again a safe haven after week's battles were fought around the city by militias of rival factions. The killing and looting brought the city to its knees. Then a couple of weeks ago, a deal was done for the factions to move out of town. Since then, ECOMOG soldiers have been sweeping through Monrovia in a big search operation. Yesterday, the ECOMOG commander, Major General John Mark Inienger, held a press conference to declare the exercise a success. On the line, Richard Lee asked Gen. Inienger if that meant the factions had left Monrovia completely.

[Begin recording] [Inienger] Yes, indeed.

[Lee] So, the are only armed men in Monrovia at the moment are ECOMOG soldiers?

[Inienger] This is very correct. The only people allowed to carry arms in Monrovia at the moment are ECOMOG troops.

[Lee] And what about the arms that these faction fighters might have left behind?

[Inienger] All of these arms have been collected, some of them were surrendered to ECOMOG voluntarily, some were searched for and found — those have been impounded as well — and they caught a large number of arms and ammunition. This was made possible through the vigorous cordoning and search exercise that was conducted by ECOMOG troops throughout the city.

[Lee] So, you have been able to search throughout the city? You have been able to search all the barracks, etc.?

[Inienger] That is very correct, but like you know, the search for arms and ammunition is a continuous exercise.

[Lee] What are ECOMOG doing at the moment? Are you still patrolling the areas?

[Inienger] Oh yes. Patrolling is 24 hours. We are patrolling the areas because, like you know, there are still some people of the underworld who, even, in societies that are war-free, there are still people who would want to carry out armed robbery and so on. Monrovia is no exception, so ECOMOG is busy patrolling the city in collaboration with the police to fish out these elements.

[Lee] And you are saying that Monrovia is once again a safe haven? Does that mean that life is returning to some sort of normality?

[Inienger] Life has returned to normal in Monrovia in all spheres. I am informed that even the night life as well has started. Disco houses are open. There are some drinking houses open. The (?streets) are booming once again.

[Lee] Why is it taking ECOMOG so long to declare Monrovia a safe haven again?

[Inienger] Perhaps, it could be long. It could be said to be a long period. The reasons are not far-fetched. First and foremost, it must be appreciated that there need to be negotiations. Similarly, logistically, we had to have a buildup of forces that would be sufficient to have an overwhelming presence in Monrovia. So, we had to withdraw all the forces who were earlier on deployed to the countryside for disarmament. That also took a long while.

[Leed] You say that one of the things that took so long was you had to bring in ECOMOG from outside, from

the countryside, and since you have done that, fighting has escalated around Liberia. What is your next move? Are you now going to send ECOMOG troops from Monrovia back out into the countryside?

[Inienger] For the moment, the priority on our list is the return of Monrovia to safe haven status. We believe that this is a major achievement upon which many other achievements could be made.

[Lee] But now that you have achieved safe haven status, in your own words, in Monrovia, surely you must consider moving troops out into the countryside as quickly as possible to quell this latest upsurge in fighting?

[Inienger] That will be determined at the next ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] summit. [end recording]

Liberia: 8 Reported Killed in Factional Clashes
AB2806125796 Paris AFP in English
1136 GMT 28 Jun 96

[FBI Transcribed Text] Monrovia, 28 Jun (AFP) — At least eight people were reported killed and five wounded in factional clashes in western Liberia, according to refugees arriving near here. Sumo Ballah told reporters at the Po River Bridge, 17 kilometers (11 miles) north of here that she saw "at least eight bodies" as she fled clashes between rival Krahn and Mandingo factions of the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO) in Sasstown, 30 kilometers (19 miles) north of here.

Ballah, who was shot in the leg, said sporadic shooting broke out Thursday [27 June] in Sasstown between the rival groups. He said the clashes started when Krahn militias attacked positions of their Mandingo rivals. "The firing was too heavy and all over the place. We ran in all directions," said Ballah.

A local Red Cross worker, Varney Freeman, said there was a daily influx of refugees at the Po River point. He said among the latest batch of 370 refugees who arrived late Thursday was a five-month-old baby, "rescued by other fugitives." "We are looking for the mother," he added. Other refugees said she dropped the child while trying to escape.

Aid agencies estimate more than 10,000 refugees have so far arrived here since factional clashes began early this month in western Liberia.

In a related development, UN and humanitarian aid agencies said fighting was also continuing in southeastern Liberia between rival militias loyal to transitional ruling council members Charles Taylor and George Boley. They said the fighting is mainly taking place in

Grand Gedeh and Sinoe Counties, forcing thousands to flee to neighbouring Ivory Coast.

Liberia: Hostage Taking Said Increasing Around Tubmanburg

AB3006160096 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 29 Jun 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBI Transcribed Text] Well, the departure of the faction militias from Monrovia certainly seems to have triggered conflict elsewhere in the country between the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and LPC [Liberian Peace Council] in the southeast, and closer to the capital, between Roosevelt Johnson's ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson] and Alhaji Koromah's ULIMO-K [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Koromah] around Tubmanburg. Koromah's forces have been joined by a new movement called the Congo Defense Force, CDF, and once again, it seems it's the civilian population that is being used and abused. From Monrovia, Jonathan Peyley telexed this report:

Two days of fierce fighting have trapped thousands of civilians in villages along the main highway linking the capital, Monrovia, and the western town of Tubmanburg. The civilians who are trying to reach Monrovia have been blocked from crossing the Po River Bridge, which lies just 20 miles northeast of the capital. A small group of civilians, mostly Sierra Leoneans, who managed to cross the bridge last night, said that thousands of people fleeing the clashes around Tubmanburg are being physically prevented from leaving the area by various militia forces. The escapees disclosed that the hostages are largely concentrated in the towns of Ba and Kle situated along the main western highway. Scores of captives are also being held in a town nicknamed, Ambush Village, just six miles outside Tubmanburg. Hostage taking by armed factions has been going on in the area for sometime, but it has increased recently as ULIMO-K and Congo Defense Force militiamen have intensified their assault on ULIMO-J positions.

Retreating troops have also been accused of taking a large number of civilians with them, who are forced to carry loads and ammunition on their heads. A spokesman for a group of 400 displaced people who crossed the Po River Bridge yesterday morning said that they only managed to escape when one of the factions attacked the village where they had been held hostage for weeks. He said: We fled in all directions and later regrouped along the banks of the Po River before crossing to safety. Two days ago, an unspecified

number of civilians escaped from a ULIMO-J camp, but they were blocked from reaching Monrovia by forces of ULIMO-K and the Congo Defense Force, who then subjected them to forced labor and other forms of ill-treatment.

Niger

Niger: Government Confirms Elections Dates for 7 Jul, 22 Sep

AF3006204096 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French 1900 GMT 30 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Council of Ministers met yesterday under the chairmanship of General Ibrahim Barre Mainassara, National Salvation Council chairman and head of state. [passage omitted]

Concerning the upcoming elections, the government expressed satisfaction with the high sense of duty demonstrated by the managerial staff of the Directorate of Computerization, data collectors, and all registry office employees. It encourages all of them to continue in their efforts for the triumph of democratic ideals.

Meanwhile, the government confirms the terms of Decree No. (796180TCSN/MU/ATS) of 27 May, convening the electorate for the first round of the presidential election slated for 7 July. It also announces the holding of the legislative elections for 22 September.

Nigeria

Nigeria: Foreign Minister Calls Suspension 'Fundamental Error'

AB2806194396 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 1700 GMT 28 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Chief Tom Ikimi, says the next meeting between Nigeria and the Commonwealth action group will provide a solution to the problems created following the suspension of Nigeria from the organization. The next meeting between the Nigerian delegation and the action group has been fixed for September this year. Chief Ikimi stated that reversing Nigeria's suspension was necessary to pave way for more meaningful dialogue. He pointed out that Nigeria was still dealing with the international organizations like the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, and the Economic Community of West African States. Chief Ikimi described Nigeria's suspension as fundamental error created by the Commonwealth.

Nigeria: Radio Hails 'Breakthrough' in Relations With Commonwealth

AB2806131296 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 28 Jun 96

[Commentary by Kayode Bamidele]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nigeria on Tuesday [25 June] edged her way another step forward out of the hostile international environment created for her by the misgivings, misconceptions, and outright mischief of a section of the international community. In a well-packaged diplomatic offensive she has, by the meeting with the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group in London on Monday [24 June] and Tuesday, succeeded in breaking the impasse over her suspension from the organization.

At the peak of a lingering diplomatic siege, which some prominent Western nations and their cronies had laid on the country since the annulled presidential election in 1993, the Commonwealth suspended Nigeria from the organization. The organization claimed its decision was based on allegations of human rights abuses in Nigeria and, in particular, the hanging of Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight others who were condemned to death for murder.

The suspension gave Nigeria a rude shock because to her the action was totally uncalled for, and must have emanated from a clear misunderstanding of events. Apart from this, [the] Commonwealth action was unprecedented and appeared premeditated. No wonder then that Nigeria's initial reaction was that of rebuff of the organization's sanction, and temporary withdrawal from its orbit.

This week's breakthrough is no doubt a result of the well-planned counteroffensive, which has brought in good results. Not long ago, the UN fact-finding mission after a visit to Nigeria declared support for the country's transition program, and warned against imposition of sanctions on her.

Of the four issues Nigeria put forward before the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group in London, the need to establish a platform for dialogue appears the most crucial. For one thing, it is only when there is dialogue that other issues can be negotiated. That a forum for dialogue has been created is a major achievement for Nigeria, more so when it is realized that most of the hostility toward her emanated from lack of understanding of the country's problems.

Another serious issue is that of sanctions which the ministerial action group has now been forced to put in abeyance until its next meeting in September. The other two issues — the lifting of suspension on Nigeria's membership, and securing support for the transition

program — are definitely matters that will require a full summit to decide.

With the new spirit and disposition of the ministerial action group and those of some key member nations, Nigeria may look forward to a reunification with the Commonwealth sooner than expected. In this regard, particular mention must be made of Britain, which now seems to have discovered that it made a mistake to have teamed up with the hawks seeking sanctions against Nigeria. Her recent supportive role, particularly, at the just concluded meeting is encouraging. Britain must know, anyway, that because of her role as a former colonial master there is no way she can wash her hands clean of whatever becomes of Nigeria.

The intransigence of Canada and New Zealand, who are insisting on tough stance against Nigeria, is quite intriguing. Why is Canada so agitative against Nigeria, threatening to impose sanctions unilaterally, when the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group has suspended action on the move? Is Canada claiming to be wiser and more concerned about Nigeria than the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Nations? Do the authorities in Canada know that going contrary to the collective decisions of these umbrella organizations amount to a vote of no-confidence in them? What does Canada intend to gain through imposition of sanctions on Nigeria? Who will Canada's sanctions affect — the government or the populace? The reality is that more often than not the ordinary people are usually the victims of such sanctions as people in authority are somehow protected. It is hoped that Canada, which has always been a moderate nation, will not push herself into serious actions that are bound to achieve negative results.

Perhaps, one should commend the composition of the delegation that attended the London talks. It was a formidable team loaded with people who have experience, professionalism, and integrity. With the dialogue opened up with the United Nations and the Commonwealth, Nigeria is already on the road to shaking off all the negative image and sanctions which the unfriendly disposition of groups at home and abroad have unduly imposed on her.

Nigeria: Muslim Fundamentalists Clash With Police
AB2906141896 Paris AFP in English
1309 GMT 29 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Jun 29 (AFP) — Clashes between Moslem fundamentalists and police in northern Nigeria left one person dead and several others wounded, press reports said Saturday [29 June].

Around 50 fundamentalists were arrested following the clashes in Kontagora, in the northern Niger state,

the independent GUARDIAN daily said, citing police sources. No official casualty toll from the incident has been released.

The disturbance started when the Moslems were refused entry to the palace of the Emir of Kontagora, where they had gathered to seek permission for open air worship in the town's central square.

The clashes mark the second time fundamentalists have fought with the authorities in 10 days in northern Nigeria, mainly populated by Moslems.

At least three people were killed June 19 in Kaduna in the neighboring Kaduna state, witnesses told AFP, after four students were sent home from school for alleged trouble-making.

Moslems make up around 45 percent of Nigeria's 100-strong population. [sentence as received]

Nigeria: Papers Report Release of Abiola's Son From Detention

AB3006130496 Paris AFP in English
1217 GMT 30 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Jun 30 (AFP) — Kola Abiola, the eldest son of detained Chief Moshood Abiola, has been released after being detained more than two weeks over the assassination of his stepmother, Kudiratu Abiola, press reports said Sunday [30 June].

The SUNDAY CONCORD, a newspaper owned by Chief Abiola, reported that his son, who was taken away for interrogation on June 12, was released late Saturday.

The release was also reported by the independent VANGUARD newspaper Sunday.

Gunmen assassinated Kudiratu Abiola at the age of 44 as she was getting into her car on June 4.

Other members of the Abiola family, including the millionaire politician's younger brother Alhaji Mubashiru Abiola, who was arrested about the same time, are expected to be released either Sunday or Monday, said the CONCORD, which quoted Chief Abiola's personal physician, Ore Falomo. Falomo said the way was now clear to inform Chief Abiola of his wife's death, a task that falls to him.

Chief Abiola has been detained on treason charges since declaring himself president on the basis of June 1993 elections that had been annulled by the military despite having been judged free and fair by local and international observers.

Four key opposition members close to Chief Abiola who were arrested June 17 over Kudiratu Abiola's assassination remain in detention.

The Federal High Court here last Monday said the four could sue the Federal Government for their right to liberty.

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone: RUF Rebels Violate Cease-Fire
AB2806194496 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 28 Jun 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There has been the biggest violation yet of the cease-fire declared by RUF [Revolutionary United Front] rebels in Sierra Leone. It comes about a month after the peace talks between the government and Foday Sankoh's rebels reached an impasse. Now, there has been an attack on the road between the southern city of Bo and the capital, Freetown. From Bo, Alhassan Sylla telexed this report:

The most blatant violation of the three-month-old cease-fire between the government and the RUF occurred yesterday when rebels ambushed a Mazda vehicle in broad day light, shooting one person dead. Four survivors of the attack are now being treated for gunshot wounds and severe shock in a Bo government hospital.

According to one of them, Mrs. Bintu Fofana, a prominent businesswoman in Bo, she and the other passengers were travelling from Pamela on the Guinean border where they bought goods to sell in Bo. On reaching the town of Senehun, on the Freetown-Bo highway, their vehicle was stopped by a large band of men in military combat gear.

The driver of the vehicle panicked and attempted to speed past the armed men who then opened fire on the car. The driver was hit by a bullet and lost control of the vehicle which landed in a ditch. The armed men then approached the car, fired another shot at the driver before ordering the rest of the passengers out of the vehicle.

According to another survivor, Mariama Machalo, who had a deep bayonet wound close to her neck, the armed men, who had by now identified themselves as RUF rebels, then stole all the luggage and goods from the vehicle. According to Mariama, the rebels ordered her and two other women to follow them to their base in the bush. However, after five miles of trekking, the rebels unexpectedly set them free.

Sierra Leone: Cease-Fire Violation Continues
AB3006193596 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 30 Jun 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] For the second time in 72 hours, there has been an ambush on Sierra Leone's major highway, the road between the capital Freetown and the country's second city, Bo. The incident comes as peace talks continue in Abidjan between the Sierra Leone Government and Foday Sankoh's RUF [Revolutionary United Front] rebels. Our correspondent Alhassan Sillah has been talking to some of the survivors of the ambush who have now reached a hospital in Bo, and he telexed us this report.

In the latest ambush, one man was killed and two of three survivors required treatment in intensive care. School boy Abdulaye Nguele, is still recovering from a state of shock but told me today that the car in which he has been travelling from Freetown to Bo on Friday [28 June] had been stopped at the village of Mafonbo, some 16 miles outside Bo. The assailants he said, were men dressed in ragged civilian clothes. Abdulaye explained that when the driver refused to stop, he was shot at and killed on the spot. The car ground to a halt some yards further on and the assailants surrounded the vehicle. They removed everything in sight including bread which was ravenously devoured by the hungry-looking men. By this time, one of the passengers, Katy, was bleeding profusely from a bullet wound. Abdulaye said that she was abandoned in the car, that she and another occupant called Christine, were dragged onto the edge of the highway by their captors who laid in wait for other vehicles. They shot at and missed the next vehicle to pass and the second turned out to be a military truck. The bandits opened fire, the soldiers replied in kind and the bandits fled into the bush. But not before getting a firm grip on Abdulaye whom they dragged along. Christine managed to get away. Abdulaye said he was taken about 10 miles along the main highway and then abandoned and told to find his own way home.

I spoke to Christine as she sat at the bedside of her friend Katy in Bo hospital. She told me this was the first time she had ever travelled outside Freetown in her life and she had spent 24 hours wandering around in circles in the forest before miraculously finding her way to Bo on bush paths. Her body is covered with dozens of cuts and scratches. Katy remains in a coma in Bo hospital but doctors say she is responding to treatment. So far there has been no comment from the military on the incident.

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